

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat to be laid under a drip-oozing food comprising:

an absorption sheet configured to absorb drips; and
a porous surface sheet ~~arranged over~~ adjoining the absorption sheet, and having a first side facing said absorption sheet and a second side configured to adjoin in contact with the food;

wherein said drip absorption mat ~~prevents~~ is configured to prevent color deterioration on a rear side of the food ~~in contact with~~ adjoining said porous surface sheet by ~~adjusting~~ augmenting the breathability of said absorption sheet in both the horizontal and ~~depth~~ thickness directions.

2. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 1;
wherein said absorption sheet comprises a ~~piece of~~ non-woven fabric having a thickness in the range ~~from~~ of 0.3 mm to 3.0 mm.

3. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 1;

wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on a the mounting surface of a the tray ~~on which the drip-oozing food is placed~~ between the tray and the food.

4. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat to be laid under a drip-oozing food comprising:

an absorption sheet configured to absorb drips; and
a porous surface sheet ~~arranged over~~ adjoining the absorption sheet, and having a first side facing the absorption sheet and a second side configured to adjoin in contact with the food;

wherein the drip absorption mat is characterized by a ventilation resistance, value of said drip absorption mat in the depth in the thickness direction, that does not exceed 1.00 Kpa·s/m.

5 5. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 4;
 wherein a ventilation resistance value of said porous surface sheet in the ~~depth~~
thickness direction does not exceed 0.20 Kpa·s/m.

 6. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 4;
10 wherein said absorption sheet comprises a ~~piece of~~ non-woven fabric having a
thickness in the range ~~from~~ of 0.3 mm to 3.0 mm.

 7. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with
a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 4;
15 wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on a the
mounting surface of a the tray between the tray and the food ~~on which the drip-oozing~~
~~food is placed.~~

 8. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 4;
20 wherein ~~a ventilation resistance value of~~ said drip absorption mat ~~in the~~ is
characterized by a ventilation resistance value in a horizontal direction that does not
exceed 0.20 Kpa·s/m when ~~the resistance is measured by the following test method;~~
~~wherein a test methodology, comprising:~~
laying a plurality of drip absorption mats ~~are laid~~ one on top of another to build a
25 drip absorption mat stack;
, from which excising a cylinder of 28 mm in diameter and 5.0 mm thick in the
direction of layering ~~is excised;~~ and
aerating said cylindrically excised drip absorption mat stack ~~is aerated~~ in the
horizontal direction ~~of the drip absorption mat.~~

30 9. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 8;
 wherein said absorption sheet comprises a ~~piece of~~ non-woven fabric having a
thickness in the range ~~from~~ of 0.3 mm to 3.0 mm.

10. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 8;

wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on a the mounting surface of a the tray between the tray and the food on which the drip-oozing food is placed.

11. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat to be laid under a drip-oozing food comprising:

an absorption sheet configured to absorb drips; and

a porous surface sheet ~~arranged over~~ adjoining the absorption sheet, and having a first side facing the absorption sheet and a second side configured to adjoin in contact with the food;

wherein said porous surface sheet comprises a film having a plurality of protrusions, each protrusion having a convex side and a concave side concavity shaped undulations;

wherein a hollow cavity is formed in adjacent the protrusion on the convex portion side; and

wherein a pore is provided at the bottom of said concavity portion to form concave side such that the protrusion forms a minute aperture.

12. (currently amended) A drip-absorption mat according to Claim 11;

wherein ~~an end portion of a terminal portion of~~ said porous surface sheet is in contact with the absorption sheet, and in contact with said absorption sheet mat framing said aperture is notched so as to facilitate ~~easy~~ air flow between the hollow cavity and the aperture in the horizontal direction.

13. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;

wherein said minute aperture is tapered with an opening of larger diameter on the a side configured to adjoin contact side with the food.

14. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;

wherein said absorption sheet and said porous surface sheet are adhered with to each other without clogging in a manner that does not clog said minute aperture provided on said porous surface sheet.

15. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 14;
wherein the absorption and porous surface sheets are glued either at dots or in a line.

5 16. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 15;
 wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on a the mounting surface of a the tray between the tray and the food ~~on which the drip-oozing food is placed~~.

10 17. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
 wherein said ~~film of said porous surface sheet shares not exceeding protrusions~~ comprise not more than 30% of the total ~~space occupied by~~ area of said porous surface sheet.

15 18. (original) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
 wherein the number of said apertures is not below 20 per 1 cm².

20 19. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat according to Claim 11;
 wherein ~~the ventilation resistance value of~~ said drip absorption mat ~~in the~~ is characterized by a ventilation resistance value in a horizontal direction that does not exceed 0.20 Kpa·s/m when measured by ~~the following test method, wherein a test methodology, comprising:~~

25 laying a plurality of drip absorption mats ~~are laid with~~ one on top of another to build a drip absorption mat stack;

~~from which~~ excising a cylinder of 28 mm in diameter and 5.0 mm thick in the direction of layering ~~being excised~~; and

aerating said cylindrically excised drip absorption mat stack ~~being aerated~~ in the horizontal direction ~~of the drip absorption mat~~.

20. (currently amended) A drip absorption mat, for use with a tray configured with a mounting surface on which the food is to be placed, according to Claim 11;

wherein said drip absorption mat is configured as a tray mat to be laid on the mounting surface of a the tray between the tray and the food ~~on which the drip-oozing food is placed~~.

21. (new) An absorption mat for receiving food item oozing liquid, comprising:
an absorption sheet configured to absorb liquid; and

a porous surface sheet adjoining the absorption sheet, and having a first side facing the absorption sheet and a second side for adjoining the food item, the first side defining a cavity between the absorption sheet and the surface sheet;

wherein the surface sheet is configured to support the food item while maintaining the cavity between the absorption sheet and the surface sheet; and

wherein the surface sheet defines pores that allow liquid from the food item to flow through to the absorption sheet.